

Howard County Commission for Women
6751 Columbia Gateway Drive
Columbia, Maryland 21046
February 14, 2017

Members Present

Joan Webb Scornaienchi, Chair
Suellen Seigel, Vice-Chair
Alice Giles, Recording Secretary
Nina Basu
Lanlan Xu
Mary Jo Neil
Joyce Kim
Megha Sharma-Student Commissioner
Neveen Mcleod

Members Absent

Bano Rizvi
Cindi Rubin

Guests

Staff Present

Jacqueline R. Scott, Executive Secretary
Becca Hunt, Administrative Secretary

Call to Order:

Chair Joan Webb Scornaienchi called the meeting of the Howard County Commission for Women to order at 7:02 PM.

Approval of the Agenda:

Alice Giles moved to approve the February Agenda and Mary Jo Neil seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Approval of December Minutes:

Suellen moved to approve the January Minutes and Lanlan Xu seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Introduction: Introduction of our newest member Naveen Mcleod.

Chair's Report:

Executive Secretary's Report: Invites are out; press release is out; awards have been ordered; name tags; bios; photos; and press releases. Newspaper articles are out along with additional invitations and 3 sets of proclamations were sent to Senator's Carden, county council and county executive offices. The Women's Commission will be adding another new commissioner. The county council votes on February 21st and March 6th she will be on board.

Old Business:

Suellen Siegel would like to attend the "Human Trafficking Conference on March 2nd in Annapolis. The fee is \$25.00. All were in favor for Suellen to go.

New Business:

None

Projects:***Feminine Hygiene Products Drive***

Suellen conveyed to the commissioners that she has an appointment for the Pod Pad which the commission may obtain without any charges and that they may have someone who is willing to let the Pod sit on their property for free. The majority of the meetings for the feminine hygiene drive are held by teleconference. Lanlan conveyed to the commissioners that her employer would like to be a sponsor and is willing to match up to \$1,500.00. Mary Jo informed the commissioners that other organizations are participating in a similar drive for feminine hygiene products. These products are not covered by food stamps. The Food Bank also informs the drop off person that these products are very appreciated by the women who come to the food bank. It was also suggested that the commission create a flier letting the public know of this need.

Closed Session: The Women's Commission Meeting was closed at 7:31pm for a brief discussion. The meeting re-opened at 7:37pm.

Essay Contest

Members of the review committee are still reviewing the essays and will convey the winners to Joan when complete. The gift cards will be the same as last year, a \$200.00 gift card for the winners and \$25.00 gift card for the 1st and 2nd runners up.

Women's Hall of Fame

Megha is putting together the power-point slideshow of the bios and pictures of the winners. Joyce Kim is working on the "Commission for Women's" brochure to be ready for handout at the Hall of Fame event. Jackie Scott suggested a different way of creating the brochure so it is easier for everyone to work on. Edits for the Hall of Fame Program are due by February 21st.

Alice informed the commissioners of cost and duties of the caterer. And most of the commissioners think we should offer more than just cake so they will be serving a cheese and fruit platter as well.

We still don't know if the County Executive will be attending.

Addressing all the commissioners, one of the commissioners suggested that, Joan who is the Chair, speak for all. And she feels the person who has nominated the same women for the "Hall of Fame," be addressed and explained as to why that person was not picked when they have been nominated several times.

Feedback:

Mary Jo informed the members that the Maryland Board Education may soon have a parent sit on the board. Please voice your opinion if applicable.

Adjournment:

The Women's Commission adjourned at 8:43pm all were in favor.

Respectfully submitted by Rebecca Hunt

Next Meeting: Tuesday, March 14, at 7:00 PM.